THE CLAIMS
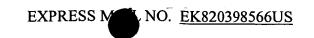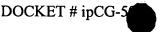
What is claimed is:

1.   A system for facilitating conception of inventions in a directed manner comprising a computer processor programmed to execute the following functions:

      (a)   requesting and accepting input comprising data selected from the group consisting of:

            (i)   mess statements;

            (ii)   data statements relating to the mess statements;

            (iii)   problem statements relating to the data statements;

            (iv)   elements relating to the problem statements, mess statements and/or data statements;

            (v)   solutions to the problem statements;

            (vi)   limitations of problem-element-solution combinations; and

            (vii)   solutions to the limitations;

      (b)   aggregating and storing said input data; and

      (c)   providing output displaying aggregated input data of (a)(i) to (a)(vii).

2.   The system of claim 1 wherein the input data comprises one or more mess statements.

3.   The system of claim 2 wherein the input data comprises one or more data statements relating to the mess statements.

4.   The system of claim 3 wherein the input data comprises one or more problem statements relating to the data statements, elements and/or mess statements.

5.   The system of claim 4 wherein the input data comprises one or more elements relating to the problem statements, mess statements and/or data statements, or where the elements are randomly generated or are conceived by the users as the result of a stimulus.

6.   The system of claim 5 wherein the elements are randomly generated.

7.   The system of claim 5 wherein the elements are conceived using a visual, tactile or olfactory stimulus.

8.   The system of claim 5 wherein the input data comprises one or more solutions to the problem statements.

9.   The system of claim 8 wherein one or more of the solutions is conceived using one element and a problem statement as creative stimulus, and the solution is stored in a manner which indicates its relationship to a problem and an element.

10.   The system of claim 8 wherein the input data comprises one or more limitations of problem-element-solution combinations.

11.   The system of claim 10 wherein the input data comprises one or more solutions to the limitations.

12.   The system of claim 1 wherein the system instructs the user that a complete invention comprises:

        (a)   a seed of an invention;

        (b)   all limitations of the seed of an invention; and

        (c)   all solutions to the limitations.

13.   The system of claim 1 wherein the computer processor is a component of a server.

14.   The system of claim 13 further comprising one or more participant computers operably linked to the server.

15.   The system of claim 14 wherein one or more of the participant computer(s) is linked via a network system selected from the group consisting of: local area networks, virtual private networks, an near private networks, the Internet, an intranet.

16.   The system of claim 14 wherein:

        (a)   one or more of the participant computers is remotely located relative to the server; and/or

        (b)   one or more of the participant computers is remotely located relative to on or more other participant computers.

17.   A method for facilitating conception of inventions in a directed manner, the method comprising:

    (a)   providing a computer processor programmed to accept input and provide output;

    (b)   inputting data selected from the group consisting of:

        (i)   mess statements;

        (ii)   data statements relating to the mess statements;

        (iii)   problem statements relating to the data statements;

        (iv)   elements relating to the problem statements, mess statements and/or data statements;

        (v)   solutions to the problem statements;

        (vi)   limitations of problem-element-solution combinations; and

        (vii)   solutions to the limitations;

    (c)   aggregating and storing the data input in step (b);

    (d)   providing output displaying aggregated input data of (b)(i) to (b)(vii).

18.   The method of claim 17 further comprising facilitating the conception by one or more participants of any one or more types of information selected from the group consisting of:

    (a)   mess statements;

    (b)   data statements relating to the mess statements;

    (c)   problem statements relating to the data statements;

    (d)   elements relating to the problem statements, mess statements and/or data statements;

    (e)   solutions to the problem statements;

    (f)   limitations of problem-element-solution combinations; and

    (g)   solutions to the limitations.

19.   The method of claim 18 further comprising using a problem statement and an element as creative stimuli to facilitate conception of a solution to the problem statement.

20.   The method of claim 18 further comprising identifying on or more limitations of a problem-element-solution combination and solutions to the limitation.

21.   The method of claim 17 further comprising using problem-element combinations as creative stimuli to facilitate inventive conception.

22.   The method of claim 17 wherein the input data comprises elements (b)(i)-(b)(vii).

23.   The method of claim 17 further comprising communicating via a telephone system, the telephone system having conference calling capabilities.

24.   The method of claim 17 wherein the computer processor is a component of a server.

25.   The method of claim 24 further comprising one or more participant computers operably linked to the server.

26.   The method of claim 25 wherein one or more of the participant computer(s) is linked via a network system selected from the group consisting of: local area networks, virtual private networks, an near private networks, the Internet, an intranet.

27.   The method of claim 25 wherein:

(a)   one or more of the participant computers is remotely located relative to the server; and/or

(b)   one or more of the participant computers is remotely located relative to one or more other participant computers.